

S. D. ROSE.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 489.]

JUNE 10, 1842.

Mr. BRIGGS, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads,  
made the following

### REPORT:

*The Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, to whom was referred the petition of Samuel D. Rose, report:*

That said Rose sets forth in his petition that, on the 7th of July, 1834, he wrote a letter in Bedford, Pa., in which he enclosed one hundred and ten dollars in bank bills, and directed said letter to Isaac and Joseph Baughn, at Emmitsburg, in the State of Maryland; that, on the evening of the same day, he deposited the same letter, with the \$110 in it, in the post office at Bedford; that the mail in which said letter was deposited left the office at Bedford on the 8th of July; that said letter or money never reached its place of destination; that, on the day the mail left the office at Bedford, it was robbed between Bedford and Chambersburg by a driver, whose name was Martin; that said Martin was afterwards convicted of the offence; that a considerable amount of money was recovered from Martin by the Department: and he further states that, although there is now in the hands of the Post Office Department an amount of money larger than that which he lost, that has never been identified by any other person, and although he has applied to the Department for the amount of his money, he has never received the same.

It appears from a letter from John M. Niles, late Postmaster General, of the 8th April, 1840, that \$1,200 were recovered from Martin, \$980 of which had been identified and paid over to its owners; that \$230 remained in the hands of the Department, it not having been identified by any person claiming to have lost money in the mail. That letter further states that Martin, after his conviction, confessed having taken the following sums from the mail, viz:

From S. D. Rose, of Emmitsburg, Md.	-	-	\$110 00
" John Baker, Mansfield, Ohio	-	-	115 00
" Judah Case, Youngstown, Pa.	-	-	470 00
Making in all	-	-	<u>\$695 00</u>

The postmaster at Bloody Run, Pennsylvania, also lost \$15, which were supposed to be taken by Martin.

As the sums confessed by Martin exceed the amount in the hands of

the Department, and as no one of the persons named was able to identify the money lost, the Postmaster General did not feel authorized to pay over the money to either of them without authority from Congress. Under the circumstances of the case, the committee think it would be right to pay over to each of the persons above named his pro rata proportion of the money in the hands of the Department, on his giving bond to refund the amount so paid to any person who should hereafter prove his title to the money; and for this purpose they report a bill.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *April 8, 1840.*

SIR: In relation to the petition of John Baker, praying remuneration for money lost by mail, I have the honor to inform you that the files of the Department show the following facts, viz :

A letter addressed to John Baker, and containing \$115 in bank notes, was mailed in Quincy, Pa., for Mansfield, Ohio, on the 22d April, 1834, which letter failed to arrive at Mansfield, and was traced, by G. Plitt, an agent of the Department, as far as Chambersburg, but could not be traced thence to Pittsburg.

In January, 1835, the agent arrested William Martin upon suspicion of having robbed the mail upon the route between Chambersburg and Pittsburg, who was, in the May following, convicted of the charge at Pittsburg, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment.

Of the moneys stolen by Martin, the agent recovered \$1,210, of which \$980 was identified at the trial of Martin by the different persons mailing it, and by the agent paid over to them, leaving a balance of \$230, which could not be identified, and which was deposited in the Department.

Martin, after his conviction, confessed having taken the following sums of money from letters passing in the mail, viz :

From S. D. Rose, of Emmittsburg, Md.	-	-	-	\$110 00
" John Baker, of Mansfield, Ohio	-	-	-	115 00
" Judah Case, of Youngstown, Pa.	-	-	-	470 00
				<hr/>
				\$695 00

The above-named gentlemen were at Pittsburg during Martin's trial, but were unable to identify any of the money recovered from Martin. Each of them had previously notified the Department of his loss.

To those sums are to be added a loss of \$15 by the postmaster at Bloody Run, Pa., (also supposed to have been one of Martin's depredations,) and increasing the sum claimed on that account, but not identified, to \$710 00.

The petition of Baker, with the accompanying letters, is herewith returned.

J. M. NILES.

Hon. J. McKAY,

*Chairman Committee, &c., H. R.*